



e-News From *MAIEN*street

A Neighborhood e-Newsletter From Councilman Brian Maienschein

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Proudly Representing the
District Five

Communities of:

Carmel Mountain Ranch

Mira Mesa

Rancho Bernardo

Sabre Springs

San Pasqual

Scripps Ranch

Sorrento Mesa

Sorrento Valley

Youth Commission approved by City Council

My involvement with San Diego youth and youth issues was one of the reasons why I ran for City Council. I wanted to insure that teens and young adults were given the tools, resources and support they need to become the region's leaders of tomorrow.

That's why I'm so proud to announce that my proposal to establish a Youth Commission was recently approved unanimously by the City Council. At a ceremony in council chambers, the thirty new members of the Youth Commission were introduced to the Council and officially sworn-in during their first meeting at City Hall.

In my opinion, San Diego youth have not been given the opportunity to become engaged and involved in creating the future of our city. But when given the chance, teens and young adults are very adept at developing bold new ideas that are sometimes passed over by adults. It's about time we empower San Diego youth by giving them a forum to influence the policies that affect their future. I'm confident that these young leaders will pave the way to a better San Diego for all young people in our region.

The Youth Commission is comprised of teens and young adults between the ages of fourteen and twenty-two and will serve as an advisory body to the City Council on issues such as graffiti, tobacco and alcohol abuse, and

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Maienschein unveils new technology in fight against sewer spills

For the past year, I have been researching ways to utilize high technology in the fight against costly and environmentally harmful sewer spills—especially in our pristine canyons.

After an exhaustive search of new technologies, I, along with the City of San Diego's Metropolitan Wastewater Department, unveiled a new hand-held Global Positioning System (GPS) device designed to reduce the risk of sewer spills in the City's urban canyons. The instrument, known as a Mobile



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Data Unit or MDU, can confirm canyon manhole locations via GPS, provide a detailed work order for inspection and repair, and maintain a permanent site record.

Protecting San Diego's canyons from sewer spills is critical, and through the use of these new mobile

units we will insure that these areas remain pristine for future generations. While we've seen a reduction in such spills over the past year, it's very important to continue the momentum that this Council has created in the fight against sewer spills. I'm confident that this new technology will do just that.

When Wastewater Collection crews enter a canyon for maintenance, inspection or repairs, the MDU will record the exact location of each manhole in the canyon using the GPS system. These GPS coordinates will be used to confirm every future visit to that site and the assessment made at that time. Upon return from the field, data from the MDU will be downloaded into a permanent records system.

With this new system, we create true accountability among sewer inspectors. Because of the tracking capabilities of the GPS system, we now have access to immediate inspection verifi-

cation and automated site inspection history in the event of any future spill. Once an assessment is entered, it is time stamped and dated. At that point the data then becomes part of the site's permanent record.

I was also joined by Scott Tulloch, Director of the Metropolitan Wastewater Department who noted that urban canyons have always been a challenge to the Municipal Sewage System. His department has known for years that canyon sewers are difficult to access even in the best of conditions because the rapid growth of brush and sedimentation after rains often obscure or hide manholes and make inspections difficult. But with the GPS, regardless of field conditions, work crews will now know the location of any canyon manhole within a few meters. This will save labor and equipment costs when locating and excavating manholes at any time of year.

Along with an increase in worker productivity, the system is expected to improve asset management activities and facilitate shorter training periods for Metro Wastewater employees using the MDUs.

The Council has committed itself to improving San Diego's water quality by replacing our dilapidated sewer system, televising sewer lines and taking proactive measures to decrease the amounts of pollutants that enter our storm drains.

This new technology will augment these programs by ensuring that San Diego's sewer system is constantly being inspected and the data gained from these inspections is entered into a easy-to-use format so that we can identify problem areas early, before another spill fouls our canyons, beaches and bays.



Councilmember Maienschein demonstrates for the media the high tech capabilities of the new mobile data units.

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the development of park and recreation facilities.

I was also very honored to appoint four teens from District Five: Elizabeth Dindial, Scripps Ranch High School, Keira Conking, Mira Mesa High School, Kelvin Ng, Thurgood Marshall Middle School; and Stacy Edgar, Rancho Bernardo High School. I'm confident that they will represent District Five very well and I look forward to working with these students to create a better San Diego.

The Youth Commission will have the option of forming recommendations on issues brought forward by their own membership or review issues submitted to them by the Council.



Councilmember Maienschein leads the first meeting of the newly formed Youth Commission

Its time to increase the number of cops on our streets

As Vice-Chair of the Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee, one of my primary concerns is increasing the presence of law enforcement in our communities. Although the shortage of law enforcement visibility is a complex problem, I have focused on what I consider one of the most important aspects. Namely, the demand for police 'support positions' - technical, administrative, and planning positions - has outstripped supply. Civilian personnel could operate at least fifty positions that are currently served by sworn officers. It is clear that returning sworn officers to traditional police work is critical and effective in increasing police visibility by getting cops back on the street.

At a recent Public Safety and Neighborhood Services meeting, I took action to correct this problem. I voted to support a program that would boost the law enforcement presence within the city. By replacing sworn officers in civilian positions with civilians, those officers are returned to the field, where they are more effective in preventing crime. As future funding becomes available, I would like to add more civilians in the department to further improve police efficiency and visibility on the streets.

A healthy police presence on our streets is very important in deterring crime and protecting our families and homes. In addition to voting to return officers back to patrol, I am requesting in next year's budget that we add 10 new officers to the police force so that we may have even more officers available to patrol our neighborhood streets.

Combined, these two initiatives will account for over 60 new sworn police officers in San Diego communities. With this greatly increased police presence we are well on our way to making San Diego America's Safest City.



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It's a pleasure to serve you on the San Diego City Council!!